

REMARKS

This amendment and related remarks that follow are intended to place the subject application in condition for allowance. Specifically, the subject matter of now cancelled Claim 5 has been incorporated into independent Claim 1. In addition, Claims 6 and 7 were amended to depend from Claim 1, instead of cancelled Claim 5. No new matter is introduced as a result of these amendments. In view of the amendments and the following reasoning for allowance, the appellants hereby respectfully request further examination and reconsideration of the subject application.

1. Interview Summary

Examiner Perungavoor contacted the undersigned attorney for the appellants and an Examiner-initiated interview subsequently took place on December 3, 2008 between the undersigned and the Examiner. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that in view of the appeal brief he was willing to allow the Claims 1-4 and 6-30, if Claim 5 was cancelled and its subject matter incorporated into Claim 1. The appellants agreed, and the foregoing amendments to the claims make the agreed to changes. It is noted that Claims 6 and 7 were also amended, but only to conform their dependency to the changes.

2. Summary

In view of the amendments set forth above, the appellants respectfully submit that remaining Claims 1-4 and 6-30 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, further examination and reconsideration of these claims is respectfully requested and allowance of at an early date is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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